

Applicant : Shashidhar Sathyanarayana  
Appl. No. : 10/072,355  
Examiner : Christopher L. Lavin  
Docket No. : 701470.23

### **Remarks/Arguments**

Claims 1-23 are currently pending in this patent application, of which, claims 1, 9 and 15 are independent. Claim 1, 9 and 15 have been amended.

### **Rejections under 35 USC §102**

The examiner rejected Claims 1-23 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Scampini (U.S. Patent No. 5,989,191). The applicant submits that independent claims 1, 9 and 15, as amended, are in condition for allowance because the Scampini reference fails to show all of the elements of the claimed invention.

Each of the independent claims, i.e., claims 1, 9, and 15, now require that the computation of an average frequency of texture be done in the "azimuthal direction." This is neither taught nor suggested in Scampini. Although Scampini also teaches an approach to reducing NURD, Scampini's approach is based on a Doppler measurement. Col. 5, lines 13-15. This involves measuring changes in the axial velocity of the transducer, i.e., towards/away from the transducer. Col. 5, lines 27-45. In the present invention, rotational velocity is based on azimuthal textural differences, i.e., direction perpendicular to the direction of the energy emitted from and received by a transducer. This is not taught, suggested, or disclosed in Scampini.

Accordingly, the applicant respectfully submits that independent claims 1, 9, and 15, as amended, and the respective dependent claims, are patentable over the cited references.

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### Conclusion

Prompt and favorable action on the merits of the claims is earnestly solicited. Should the Examiner have any questions or comments, the undersigned can be reached at (949) 567-6700.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee which may be required in connection with this Amendment to deposit account No. 15-0665.

Respectfully submitted,

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